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6TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM,
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Congress of the United States
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Washington, DC 20515-0606

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June 24, 2004

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Undersecretary for Border and Transportation Security
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection
Department of Homeland Security
425 I Street, NW #7030
Washington DC 20536

Dear Mr. Undersecretary:

Recent newspaper reports have suggested that a new initiative is underway by the US Border Patrol to use "Mobile Patrol Groups" to locate and apprehend illegal aliens at shopping centers, bus terminals, and other places in southern California. As members of Congress, we write to commend the agency and the Border Patrol for the initiative and to suggest that greater agency resources devoted to this tactic might yield good results.

According to a Border Patrol spokesperson at agency headquarters, one Mobile Patrol Group of twelve agents working out of the Temecula Station apprehended 492 illegal aliens in the period June 4 to June 22. Of these 492 persons, 19 – or about four percent – had prior deportation orders and have already been deported. Five of these 19 individuals had deportation orders based on felony criminal records.

We believe that this kind of interior enforcement is desperately needed across the country, not only in the San Diego Sector. There is a widespread conception in the border states and across the nation that if an illegal alien successfully evades the Border Patrol to get beyond 50 miles of the border, he is "home free" and need not worry about being apprehended. If each of the 21 Sectors had a similar team of agents operating as a Mobile Patrol Group, it is possible that similar results could be obtained. If 500 illegal aliens were apprehended each month by each of the 21 units, that would be 10,000 apprehensions nationally each month and 120,000 apprehensions annually. If even half of the Border Patrol's 148 Stations has such a unit, apprehensions might reach 37,000 each month and 444,000 annually.

We commend you and Border Patrol management for encouraging this new effort at interior enforcement, and we urge you to resist outside pressures to curtail it. Despite claims to the contrary, we know that homes, apartments, and churches are not being

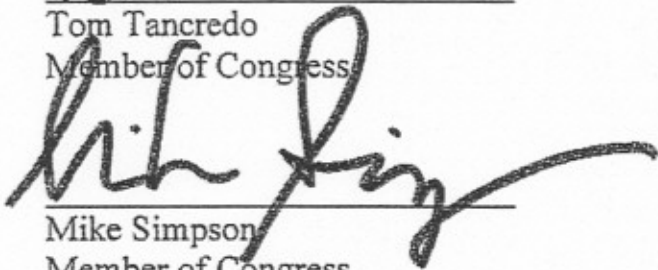
targeted by these mobile units, and that all activities are focused on public places. We think the success of the unit operating from the Temecula Station is ample evidence of the need for this activity nationwide.

Thank you in advance, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



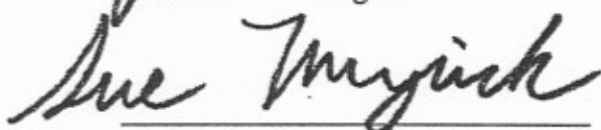
Tom Tancredo
Member of Congress



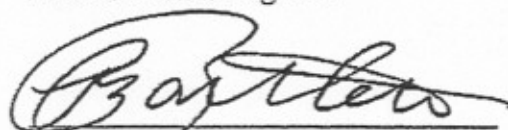
Mike Simpson
Member of Congress



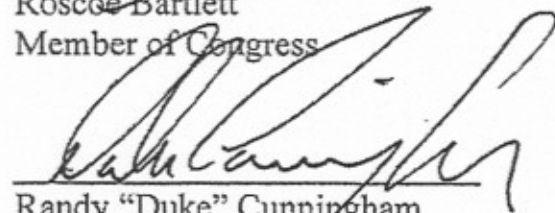
John Sullivan
Member of Congress



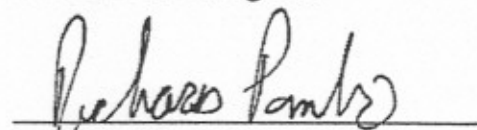
Sue Myrick
Member of Congress



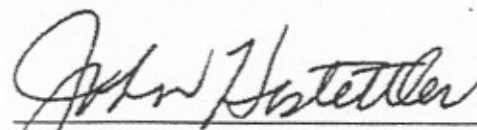
Roscoe Bartlett
Member of Congress



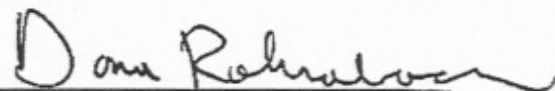
Randy "Duke" Cunningham
Member of Congress



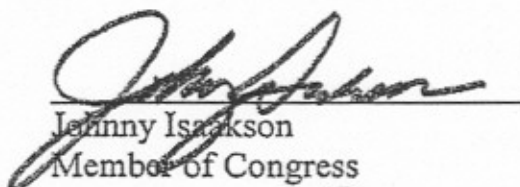
Richard Pombo
Member of Congress



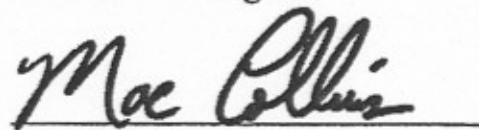
John Hostetler
Member of Congress



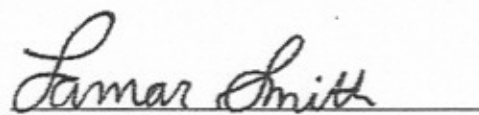
Dana Rohrabacher
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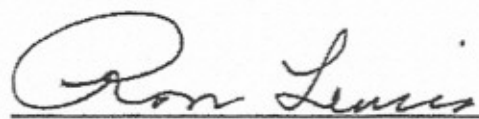
Johnny Isakson
Member of Congress



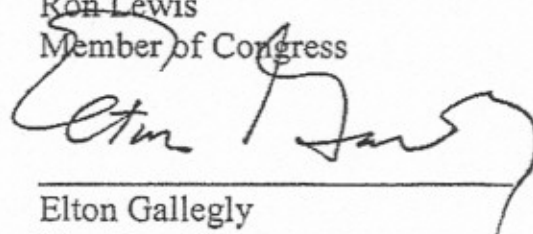
Mac Collins
Member of Congress



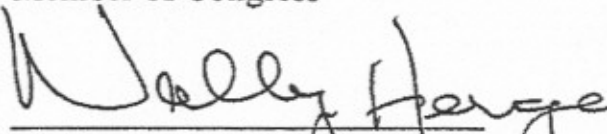
Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



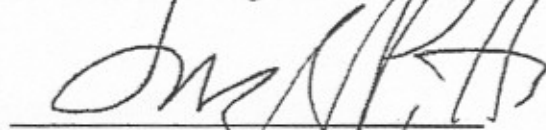
Ron Lewis
Member of Congress



Elton Gallegly
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Wally Herger
Member of Congress



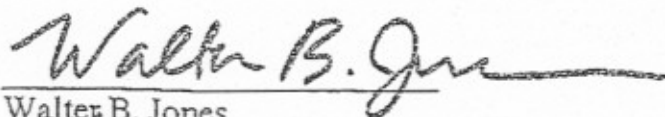
Joseph Pitts
Member of Congress



Dan Burton
Member of Congress



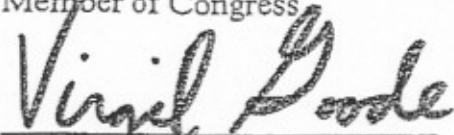
Sam Graves
Member of Congress



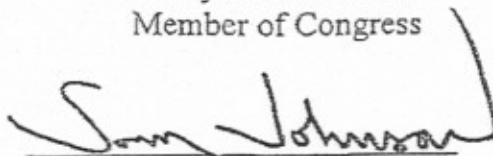
Walter B. Jones
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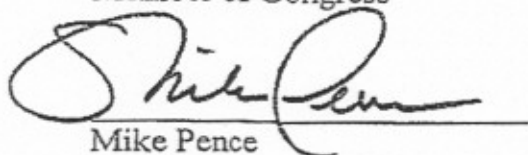
Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress



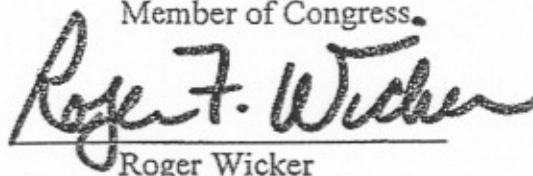
Virgil Goode
Member of Congress



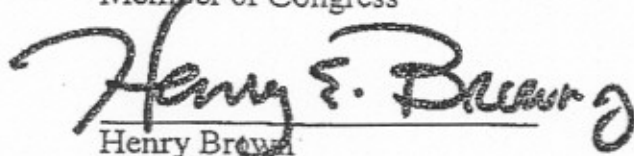
Sam Johnson
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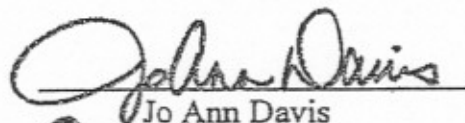
Mike Pence
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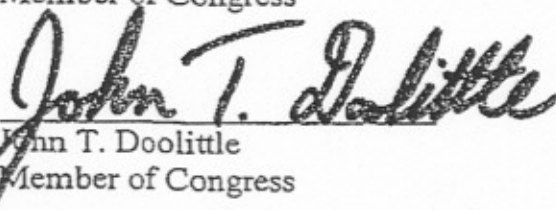
Roger Wicker
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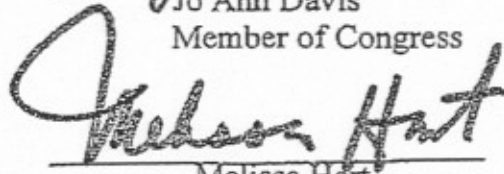
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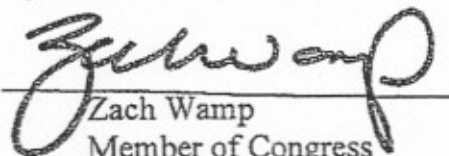
Jo Ann Davis
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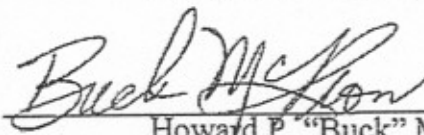
John T. Doolittle
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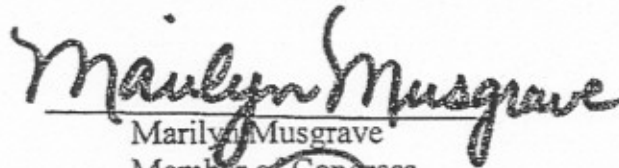
Melissa Hart
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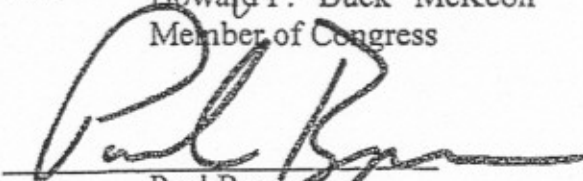
Zach Wamp
Member of Congress



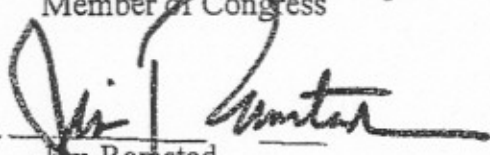
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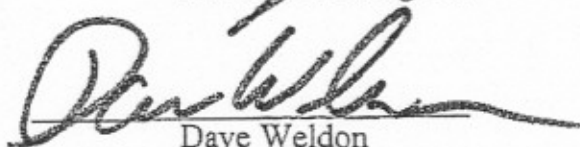
Marilyn Musgrave
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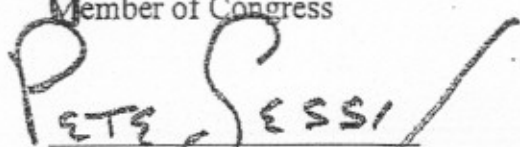
Paul Ryan
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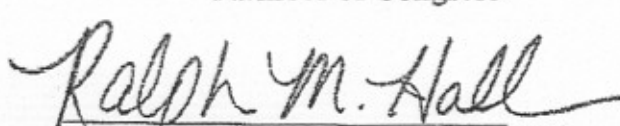
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Dave Weldon
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Pete Sessions
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Ralph Hall
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Steve King

Steve King
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Tom DeLay

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